

Bonner

September 18, 1955

Dear Miriam:

I want to thank you for sending us the lyophil tube of Y-87, as requested via Kay Wilson. I would have written sooner but wanted to check some of the features of this isolate. I was very pleased when Dot Gosting was able to isolate both an M-B⁺ and an M-B⁻. As you may know, there has been some difficulty on the history of the B⁻ (biotin) requirement in derivatives of Tatum's original 58-161, and this is the first time in several years we have been able to characterize that B⁻ requirement. We now have a clue (in differences in colony appearance) on how the B⁻ requirement came to be lost, and how to look for it again in older cultures of 58-161. Do you think you could dig up old tubes of 58-161 and its immediate derivative, Y-40, so that we can check on this point? I would appreciate having the dates (if available) on the Y-87 as well as these other lyophils, to try to reconstruct the history. If you wish, we will be happy to send you back replacement tubes on any of the repurified isolates. These cultures happen to be rather important in the history of the crossing work on K-12 or the matter wouldn't be worth bothering about. It seems to have been years since we've seen you and Dave— I'm sorry we didn't get out to Lansing, but there was too much else in the way.

Sincerely,

G-9
10/2/55